GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
PLANNING
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3440
ANSWERED ON:17.08.2005
LOWER INCOME PEOPLE
Chavda Shri Harisinh Pratapsinh;Prasad Shri Hari Kewal

Will the Minister of PLANNING be pleased to state:

(a) the percentage of people whose income is less than one dollar;

(b) the reaction of the Government thereto; and

(c) the corrective measures taken by the Government to increase their income?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRI M.V. RAJASEKHARAN)

(a): According to the World Development Indicators 2005, the proportion of population living below US $ 1 a day is 34.7 per cent in India.

(b): According to the official estimates of the Government of India, the proportion of people living below the poverty line was 26.1 per cent in 1999-2000. This proportion has been estimated by the Planning Commission on the basis of large sample surveys on consumption expenditure conducted by the National Sample Survey Organisation once in approximately five years.

(c): A number of measures have been suggested to raise the income levels of the people. Some of these include raising public investment in different sectors particularly in agriculture, infrastructure, viz. power, roads, greater focus on health and education, improving governance, etc.